

WAIST LINE PRACTICALLY DISAPPEARS IN EVENING GOWNS

Newest Models Sombre in Tone but Decollete to the Extreme and With Bright Trimmings

By MARTHA GOODE ANDERSON.

MANY of the newest evening gowns are reproducing the cuirasse bodice of the long hipped affair we came to know well some years ago as the moyen age waist. The waist line has practically disappeared, for it is either so high under the arms that it is entirely empire, or so long that it sounds the note of the middle ages.

Now and then the waist is emphasized by a huge butterfly bow; but this is rarely at the waist line. It may be just above its sash and maybe draped in loops just below.

It is to be noted that all of the new evening gowns are sombre in tone, black, dark blue and purple leading all other colors. These sombre gowns are decollete in the extreme; there is no modification as yet of this fashion. Bright trimmings are introduced in various unusual ways to lighten the dark dress, as for example, in a black tulle gown which has a pointed bodice and an empire line showing underneath the tulle and banding together a strip of field flowers—daisies, red poppies and yellow buttercups.

Meadow Blooms Popular.

These gay simple meadow blossoms are so popular this year that one sees them hobnobbing in the most aristocratic gowns and hats. The particular frock which they adorn in this instance is prettily put together in a fine confusion of black tulle and fine lace. There are no sleeves and just a little bodice as possible.

The cuirasse waist is seen on a black dress, of which tulle and satin form the skirt. Wide blue satin ribbon brocaded thickly with silver is wound sheathlike from point to back to form the waist. Looped ends cascade at one side of the back and are the only trimming used about the frock.

It is always wise to have at least one black evening gown in one's wardrobe. There is nothing more serviceable. Indeed, I recall the words of a certain beautiful American actress who said: "Twice a year I add a new black evening gown to my wardrobe. I am never without one."

I do not know what became of the discarded treasures, but I remember seeing her at dinner one evening in a marvelous black gown decorated in a way with silver nail heads just as jewellers edge costly pocketbooks and card cases with the narrowest gold or silver clasps. The gown had no touch of color except these silver nail heads, but it was indescribably lovely and becoming. There is no doubt about it, the black evening gown is indispensable, especially in these storm times when one dress must serve far longer than any three have in years gone by.

Evening Frock Materials.

We speak always of tulle gowns; but after all, the material used for these filmy frocks is not tulle at all, but a very fine silk net, very wide and

soft enough to look exactly like tulle. It is not so perishable as maline, but at that its lasting qualities are none too good, for in a very short time, indeed, it will look stringy and limp.

Next in popularity to the net frocks for evening wear comes georgette, which admits always of clever, soft, draping, and for this reason never seems to lose its hold. The darker gowns are made up for the most part in the nets, while the pale shades are left to chiffon and georgette.

Some one has said that all of the late models shown at this moment have a middle aged look, as if intended for women of maturer years, rather than for the gay young creatures we associate with festive and joyous occasions. Of course there is not much gaiety nowadays and there are very few parties and dances. The middle aged have it all more or less their own way. Being a debutante these days isn't altogether as gay a thing as it could be.

"It is a glorious thing to be a soldier and die for your country," sighed a young girl the other day, "but another story to be an old maid for it!"

Soldiers Call for Colors.

To return to the evening gowns. It is the soldiers themselves who plead for the wearing of light and gay frocks, who beg for that *joie de vivre* which means so much to youth released from the stern surroundings of a military camp, and which is expressed by girls in lovely frocks at gay dances.

One of the prettiest dancing frocks I have seen recently is of dark blue net, very fine and filmy in texture. It is made on a foundation of navy blue satin and has a short cuirasse of ribbons of several colors—lavender, old rose, silvery gray and dark blue harmoniously intermingled. Just on the hips are curiously contrived little short ruffles, which stick straight out. They look like short ballet skirts and catch the eye at once. This dancing frock was not designed, I am sure, for the middle aged, whose desire is for those models cleverly concealing waist and hip line, but rather for some pencil slim rosy cheeked creature.

The French dressmakers set the stamp of favor, some months ago, on jet, using it in every imaginable way. It is just beginning to have the same vogue here and appears on many evening gowns to good advantage.

One of the black net frocks I referred to above shows a rather old fashioned idea. It is made of black net on a foundation of very heavy black satin. There are three flounces of net set like ruffles in a dimity frock, one above the other, and the armholes are outlined with a thread of jet, which also runs around the very low cut neck.

Headed Trimmings.

Crystal beads and jet trim a black georgette frock in a block design, and cut steel, jet and crystal beads in two sizes are used for another frock, also of black net. White velvet flowers with their petals edged with tiny jet beads are new and very smart.

A black georgette evening gown made up over white satin has a row of



Frock of black tulle and lace, one of navy blue tulle with a shaded ribbon girdle and one of pink Georgette with ribbon and roses.

SIMPLE ACCESSORIES THAT MAKE SUMMER DRESSES DAINTY

IT is the little touches that make or mar the perfect costume. A worn-out shopping bag, a torn veil, badly fitting shoes, frayed gloves—these are minor details to which the well dressed woman pays quite as much attention as she does to her suit or dress.

Of course war time conditions do not permit us to indulge in many of the delightful accessories with the same freedom we have heretofore enjoyed. We carefully consider the new bag before we purchase it now, and look well into its lasting qualities instead of yielding, as heretofore, quickly to its beauty of color and make.

As I have said a number of times, there is nothing quite so pronounced in the prevailing modes as the tendency to combine materials. I find this tendency evidenced in the new array of bags which are handsome and so well made that they will last as long as the most economical could desire. In fact, as many bags have been

bottom part made of leather and the upper part of silk or velvet or brocade, it is possible to keep on replacing the worn part indefinitely.

A tan leather shopping bag of this

sort is made after the design of the stiff, round collar boxes we give our husbands and brothers at Christmas, and which they never use. The upper part, being of very soft leather, is

fitted with a draw string and can be pushed into the lower part. The new bags are exactly like this, except that beautiful moire silk of the exact shade of the pigskin is used for the top. A

Of course the knitting bag is not so much in evidence as when we first began our purring, but there are some very handsome, unusual bags serving the double purpose of knitting holder

They are beautiful enough to be a part of the moonlight.

Along with tulle, which has had an unprecedented vogue this year, summer frocks are appearing in surprising fashion. Even organza frocks are edged with feathers, and there are some curly scarfs made of strips of chiffon and bordered with little curled ostrich tips. These come from Paris, of course, and are lively for summer wear.

While it seems a little early to speak of fall hats, few appear here and there and tell us that the wide brimmed hat is to be much favored for early autumn wear. A wide white felt faced underneath with black velvet has a novel trimming showing a wide winged bird cut out of black velvet and applied flat against the crown and brim. A companion velvet bird is applied to the back. Lavender felt with little upstanding feathers all around the brim makes a lovely bonnet for the days that are to come.

I observe that Panamas and Lechorns are most in favor with women who do not wish to rush into these felt hats so soon. A novelty among these straw hats is the painted Lechorn. It may be covered crown and brim with poppies, wheat and buttercups and other field flowers, which show up well on the straw surface. Of course there is no other trimming used.

A year or two ago some women started the "hosiery" fad. Hosiery was really so. They were made up in bright and vivid colors to match the gay creations the soldiers have discarded for their more practical army and navy wear. Scarlet hosiery with white rings around are worn with white shoes—if one likes the "Scotch" knee. There are endless designs to choose from.

Some excellent woolen hose for sports wear have been brought out. They are ribbed and woven of heavy white wool and studded thickly with brown dots of the exact shade of the brown of the sports shoe. Sports shoes, by the way, preferably white, have a saddle of brown or black leather across the instep and toe and heel trimmings of the colored perforated leather. These stockings are for wear with these shoes.

Some good silk hose costing \$5 a pair, but extremely thick and well made, have ribs of white and blue or purple and white and are handsome and serviceable. For very dressy wear there are exquisite silken stockings with insets of cobweb lace reaching half way to the knee and over the instep and ankle.

The waistcoat does not lose popularity as the season advances, and it continues to appear in new and pleasing designs. A lively vest of white knitted silk of the slipon variety has fringed ends all around the bottom. Fringe is seen on everything; even some petticoats for dancing dresses show it banded along the bottom of the skirt. The fringed hat has almost worn out its popularity.

velvet roses along the bottom of the skirt. Not only are the rose petals outlined with the little beads, but there are tiny chains of the jet to loop the flowers together around the skirt. At each side of the skirt long panels of very fine black lace fall and are turned back in a loop caught in at the waist line and held at one side with a knot of the velvet blossoms. As in all of the other models, this too is sleeveless, and has the square neck much sought this summer.

It is impossible to speak of evening gowns without making mention of the wonderful and very lovely new evening wraps. Imagine one of these of pale rose georgette banded together with wide strips of rose velvet brocaded in quaint old times yellow and pink rosebuds. The shape of the cape is narrow and round like the capes affected in our grandmother's day. As a rule these gossamer things have no lining. And yet they give sufficient warmth for summer nights.

Silver gray satin with a gray silk fringe at least half a yard deep forms another beautiful creation. It has a

thread scarf of gray satin with deeply fringed ends. Still another beautiful cape, also of gray satin and gray georgette, reveals a silvery gray and blue satin facing.

In this connection I must also mention the revival of the mode for little neckbands to wear with evening dresses. Bars of jet mounted on very fine lace bands and linked together with strings of jet are immensely fashionable. We seldom see pictures of England's Queen Mother without a circle of some sort about her throat, and this I speak of to illustrate the sort of little neckband in vogue here.

These jet circles are now and then mounted on velvet. One sees them with a square buckle in front with loops of jet connecting with another buckle at the back. They clasp the throat quite closely and as a rule are becoming. Because of the demand at this time for simple things these little trifles have almost superseded brilliant and glittering and very costly precious stones. Pearls, however, go on their beautiful way adored and desired and seem to accord with the spirit of the times.

PARIS BUSY MAKING NEW WINTER MODELS

By ALICE ZESKA SNYDER.

PARIS, June 27.
TO those who lived through the epoch making days of September, 1914, when the Germans were practically at the gates of the city, Paris of June, 1918, presents much the same aspect. Then Gallieni was the ruling spirit, his calm presence the inspiration of those who remained to stand or fall with the city beautiful. And, with his help, Joffre threw back the Hun and Paris was saved.

To-day also there are two men whose names fill with confidence those who refuse to flee the French capital. Foch at the front—and in his military genius every one has faith—and the wonderful seventy-year-old young Clemenceau whose dictatorial "The Government will never capitulate!" has given courage to the Parisians. They are convinced that the barbarians will never march under the Arc de Triomphe save as prisoners of war and that the long threatened bombardment of the city will never take place.

But aside from the millions who remain, there are a million people who have fled; refusing to be uncomfortable even for a moment and not taking into account the shame that will be theirs when this offensive has turned into another Hun offensive.

Undoubtedly the streets are less crowded; there is no longer any scurrying across corners to escape the ruthless chauffeur. Taxis stand idle and many of the smaller shops have put up their shutters. Even some of the great stores have vacated their front doors carting away to safety their art treasures and more valuable merchandise. The banks have moved their securities to other towns and the Paris railway stations are jammed with travellers who loudly proclaim that they are only going away for a few weeks' holiday and that not in a sense must they be classed as fugitives.

And yet the movies and theatres that remain open are filled and the department stores seem to have as many customers as ever. The restaurants, fashionable and unfashionable, hold their tables at a premium and the boulevards last Sunday were black with promenaders.

Making Winter Models.

The world of fashion goes on also in all the latest and newest winter models are being prepared feverishly for the influx of American buyers who are due to arrive next month. This week's steamship brought the first of these to Paris. There was much questioning whether or not the Paris modistes would prepare their autumn collection of hats. They made their first models last week as a feeler for foreign buyers and the fact that a representative of one of the most important New York firms had already arrived served as the greatest encouragement and will also decide the doubtful ones to begin work on their winter models.

As long as one buyer has arrived others will follow. Then there are firms who have permanent buyers in Paris and there are also one or two buyers who remained over from last season owing to the difficulties of travelling. So altogether there will be enough buyers interested in autumn millinery to start the ball rolling in good fashion this week.

Though Paris may seem deserted as far as women are concerned, there are still enough left to want to know what the new styles in hats may be. And the women elsewhere are probably more eager to know what is going on in Paris in regard to the fashions than Parisians themselves.

New Small Hats Shown.

Old England and some of the smart specialty shops are showing new small hats called "polichons" which are made of long haired felt and are guaranteed to withstand the ravages of wind and weather. They come in three tones: White, black and a pale anemic blue; these tints being favored because they are least likely to run if beaten upon by a sudden summer shower. The hats are narrow in the brim with a moderately high rounded crown, which looks for all the world like the furry top of the head of an Angora cat and makes your fingers itch to scratch it. Their only trimming is a two inch grosgrain ribbon of the same shade as the champagne. These hats are splendid for travelling and motoring and are much seen on smart Parisiennes, whose health suddenly demands that they seek the bracing climates of Aix or Biarritz.

Because of the tremendous exodus to the country, there has been an unprecedented demand for summer frocks, for at all the watering places there is much dressing and hourly changing of costumes. At the sea-

shore the bathing suit and its accessories are a question of great moment to the *elégante*, whose chief preoccupation in life is to look stunning no matter what world tragedies are going on around her. For generations, French women have bathed bare legged because they dressed for the bath in the little wheeled cabine which could be rolled down to the water's edge, permitting Madame to step into the waves without betraying the secret whether or not she wore stockings.

This season there is a tendency to adopt the *maison* sandals copied after the Greek crotchet. These come half way up the calf in the back, are bound with colored braid that matches the bathing suit, and in front lace up with the same color, revealing the arched instep and slender ankle. Whether or not the war is responsible for a newly aroused feeling of modesty, many smart Frenchwomen are adopting the American custom of wearing bathing stockings. Great care must be exercised in selecting hose of a fast color owing to the poorness of the dyes, for most of the black and blue silk stockings one buys nowadays have the unpleasant habit of crocking, and when put into sea water there runs from them a stream of such blackness that, gathered up in inkwells, it would make an excellent writing fluid.

Smart Only When It Is Dry.

As long as the bathing suit remains dry it looks smart, but once wet it often loses its chic and appears bedraggled when Madame emerges from the waves. For this reason no Parisienne considers her beach costume complete without the long peignoir that completely conceals all defects. These robes are usually made of wool or cotton sponge, with cotton as first choice. They come in as apricot, delft blue, lemon yellow, khaki and old rose, and either have printed motifs on a white ground, with a border that matches the shade of the design.

The peignoirs are wide enough to permit the front breadth to be crossed and draped in a way that not only is enough to drag on the shoulders, but the sleeves are loose, so that the gown may be easily slipped on and off, and the fastenings are as little complicated as possible. Some robes have wide collars to protect the neck against sunburn; others have hoods, and as one of the secrets of the French is to keep these are put on most of the time. Despite these convenient carryalls there are also fascinating little rubberized bags that are carried on the arm and which hold the many indispensable little toilet accessories dear to the heart of the French bathier. The new bathing suit is accompanied by a small bag of a Japanese paper parasol, carried as a protection against the sun that tans. The rubberized material is so thin and light that it can be embroidered just as can silk or mousseline de soie. The embroidery matches the bathing suit and it accompanies it usually has a nautical tinge, the favorite designs representing fishes, shells, seaweed, anchors, seascapes, etc.

The Parisienne has ever been noted for her wonderful hair dressing that always looks as if she had just come from the hands of her coiffeur. At the seashore she does not depart from her traditions. The woman who swims carefully covers her locks with a coquettish rubber cap.

Many of the new bathing suits have a rounded, pointed or shawl shaped collar, which is not exaggeratedly large otherwise it is apt to get out of shape and spoil the smart effect of the costume. So that the serge of the suit shall not scratch the skin, the waist and drawers have a thin white cotton lining cut on the same lines as the bathing dress and held in place by long stitches that can easily be slipped and removed when the lining is washed separately.

Knicker Above the Knee.

The knicker of the up to date bathing suit never comes below the knee. In fact, it gives a smarter and more youthful effect if they are cut three inches above the knee. The woman who swims wears no skirt finding that this garment hampers her. For her who simply splashes about in shallow water the skirt has its charms, but it should never be longer than the knicker, or better still a trifle shorter. When a skirt is worn the knickers are always separate.

This season trimmings are varied: brand of various widths being the most popular. A new jersey braid is so attractive, for it gives the effect of standing out from the material it adorns, and it is either one toned or of several shades that resolve themselves into stripes or checks. When the braid is narrow the Greek key pattern makes an attractive border. A good idea is to finish off the bathing suit in a crepe-ribbon of the same shade as the champagne. These hats are splendid for travelling and motoring and are much seen on smart Parisiennes, whose health suddenly demands that they seek the bracing climates of Aix or Biarritz.

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A cloak of rose chiffon with brocaded velvet bands and a white fox collar and a lace neck band with a jet clasp.



wide leather string runs through the silk and serves as a handle over the arm. A stunning morocco bag like this has the upper part of scarlet moire and is very handsome. A persistent note of scarlet has been introduced here and there. Why, I have not been able to decide, but it appears in many unexpected ways—facing wide brimmed straw hats, appearing in wide and narrow belts and standing out in bags such as I have described.

A new leather bag all over with silver and gold threads comes from Japan and is made up into flat envelope purses, deep pouch bags and simple little shopping cases. The leather is mouse gray and the brocaded designs show the curious fire trees and dragons in evidence on Japanese things. A larger bag shaped like a child's school satchel is made of this Japanese leather and caught on both sides with narrow strips of black patent leather which form the handles. The inside is fitted with a number of compartments, always a delight to a woman.

and shopping companion. The newest of these have the bottom part of straw in a brown or a natural shade, and the upper part is made of a series of light green ribbon ruffles placed one above the other to give depth. Little vanity bags of the same type are much smaller and resemble roses or other blossoms.

Some have a surface of flower petals or little blossoms, such as blue forget-me-nots or lilies of the valley strung together. These are mounted on satin of the same shade as that used for the bag, and are drawn up with a moire ribbon fluffed into a bow over the wrist. Feathers also are made up into these exquisite little bags. Canary color, blue, pink and white. They are soft and fluffy and extremely pretty for the debutante, though the poor child has little use in these war times for enchanting fripperies, what with all the boys at the front and all the girls taking up careers of some sort or other.

Even the bewitching tulle and velvet scarfs for moonlight nights seem out of place in these strenuous times.